

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President and friends all. I rise in opposition to the Pirsch amendment. I rise in support of providing some funding and some assistance to these women who are needing that assistance in their last trimester. I voted in favor of putting that on the bill when we had it before us on General File. This seems rather a far too soon time to already be appealing, to be trying to redo that when it was the will of this body only a short time ago to make that a part of the legislation. I think that prevention is extremely important and should be the first line of taking care of any problems, particularly health problems. We can head off so many complications in young people's lives if they get good preventive measures prior to, in this case, them even being born and the mother being treated and taken care of, but, particularly, for those children while they are still in the womb. I would continue on, but in lieu of that, I would yield the rest of my time to Senator Chambers.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Chambers, you have approximately four minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Preister. I won't use all of that time because it seems that the mood of the body is to reaffirm what we did the other day, but to give another analogy, and I am sure you've all heard it before. If you have a cliff and people approach the edge of that cliff, and some fall, we could decide whether the wise thing to do is to build a fence at the top of the cliff, or build a hospital at the bottom. What we are saying is that we will build a fence at the top of the cliff, and prevent those things which are preventable, rather than ignoring the preventative action that we can take, allowing the damage to ensue, and then trying to correct it at much greater cost. I hope that we will vote against Senator Pirsch's amendment, and I expect that we shall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Witek, your light is next.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. President, members of the body, I am disappointed that people are bringing the abortion issue into this discussion simply because it is not an abortion issue. It is an...it is an issue of what we are talking here is not getting care, prenatal care, they get the care. And anybody who